

**WHO WILL RESPOND UNTIL HELP ARRIVES?**



**LEARN HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR COMMUNITY**

*Contact the Indiana Department of Homeland Security*

**[www.in.gov/dhs](http://www.in.gov/dhs)**



Indiana Department of  
Homeland Security  
302 W. Washington St Rm E208  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
800-669-7362  
[www.in.gov/dhs](http://www.in.gov/dhs)

## HOOSIERS RESPOND!

Certain things set people from Indiana apart, such as our love for a competitive basketball game or an exciting auto race. But, what also makes Hoosiers unique is our ability to roll up our sleeves and volunteer our skills and abilities to aid our communities.

Hoosiers know when their neighbors need assistance.

Hoosiers know when to answer a call to action.

**Hoosiers know when to step up and offer a helping hand!**

## COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT)

### **CERT: A Community Volunteering**

Over the years, either on television, in the newspaper or in your own community, you likely witnessed Hoosiers helping victims of events common to Indiana, such as floods or tornadoes. Many of these volunteers are CERT members.

CERT is a nationwide program that can train you how to respond appropriately to emergencies in your community. When an emergency or disaster occurs, CERT members provide critical support to first responders, assist victims and organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site.

CERT groups can form in communities, businesses, and even schools. In Indiana, there are over 1,200 CERT volunteers and nearly 300 certified CERT instructors.

### **CERT: A Community Taking Action**

CERT members receive training that allows them to take immediate and effective action in an emergency.

CERT training sessions cover disaster preparedness, fire suppression, basic medical operations, team operations, and light search and rescue. First responders that complete CERT Train-the-Trainer courses conduct local CERT training. After completing training, CERT members receive a backpack filled with basic materials and equipment needed at an emergency or disaster site.

### **CERT: A Community Helping Its Citizens**

CERT is not a replacement for professional first responders. CERT is a program to train you how to aid your fellow citizens, and even first responders, during an emergency or disaster.

An emergency or disaster may occur only once in a hundred years in your community. If one does occur, will your community be ready?

**A CERT in your community means community volunteers.**

**A CERT in your community means immediate response.**

**A CERT in your community means saved lives.**

## SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH!

CONTACT THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY OR YOUR COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
TO LEARN HOW TO CREATE OR JOIN A CERT IN YOUR AREA!